

# AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 SERVES THE STATE, LOCAL AND KTA SYSTEMS KANSAS: I-135 & 47<sup>TH</sup> STREET IN WICHITA



*The \$16.1 million reconstruction and upgrade at the interchange of I-135 and 47<sup>th</sup> Street does a lot more for Kansas' largest city than removing a bottleneck – developers are ready to build new retail space and additional land will be opened for development*

## Notable Project Facts

- Multiple entities (state, local and the nearby Kansas Turnpike) will benefit from upgrading this interchange.
- Local funding important—the local government is acquiring right of way and moving utilities which contributes roughly \$3 million to the project, promoting state and local partnerships.
- By completing this project, the highway can be removed from the state system and will become a city street.

## Why it Matters?

**Important Link for Economically Under-utilized Area.** City officials and developers are eager to see improvements made in the I-135 and 47<sup>th</sup> Street area of Wichita, the largest city in Kansas. The current interchange is underperforming and stifling growth and development. Consider this:

- **Economic development is poised to move In** – Developers have been working closely with City and State officials and are prepared to move into the area once infrastructure improvements are in place.
- **Increase developable land** – Some of the property in the project area is currently in the flood plain. That land could be raised and developed with proper access and planning.
- **Increases development potential** – The proposed redesign would accommodate attractive routing and access points to abutting undeveloped property.

## Solid Investment.

This project showcases immediate returns to the economy and creates lasting value by connecting growing communities via a safer and easier to travel freeway.

- **Creates/sustains jobs now** – An estimated 690 jobs during construction will be created/sustained.
- **Stimulates economy** – A \$57 million increase in annual economic output during construction is anticipated. The estimated benefit-cost ratio is 4-to-1.
- **Builds on other infrastructure investments** – More than \$2 million has already been invested in the development of this project.
- **Better than replacement option** – The existing bridge over I-135 will require replacement in the near future.